

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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2 SENTENCED IN CRACK COCAINE CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two co-defendants were sentenced in federal court today for their involvement in a crack cocaine conspiracy.

Bobby Roberts, 31, and **Damon C. Shelby**, 37, both of Kansas City, were each sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this afternoon to 10 years in federal prison without parole for their involvement in a crack cocaine conspiracy.

Both co-defendants pleaded guilty to two counts of an indictment that was returned by a federal grand jury on June 17, 2003, in Kansas City. **Roberts** pleaded guilty on Nov. 25, 2003, and **Shelby** pleaded guilty on Nov. 7, 2003.

By pleading guilty, the co-defendants admitted that they conspired to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine between Oct. 1, 2002, and June 4, 2003, in Jackson County, Mo.

Roberts and **Shelby** also admitted that they illegally possessed firearms in furtherance of the drug-trafficking crime. The co-defendants admitted that they were in possession of a Smith and Wesson .38-caliber revolver, two Glock .40-caliber semi-automatic pistols and a Sig Sauer .40-caliber semi-automatic pistol between Oct. 1, 2002, and June 4, 2003, in Jackson County.

A third co-defendant also has pleaded guilty to the same charges. On Nov. 26, 2003, **Ian J. Walker**, 25, of Kansas City, also pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine between Oct. 1, 2002, and June 4, 2003. **Walker** also admitted that he was in possession of the firearms in furtherance of the drugtrafficking crime.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles E. Ambrose, Jr. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow